

Madison construction plans in limbo

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Concerns over sewer system halt plans
for new middle school building project

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Madison School District's construction plans are in limbo as Madison Village officials address concerns about the sewer system.

Problems arose during an April meeting as the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency told the district it was not in favor of granting approval of village permits for the new middle school site, located on Middle Ridge Road, because of noncompliance and capacity issues.

Village officials met with Ohio EPA on Tuesday to dis-

cuss options.

"We are diligently and aggressively working to get those issues resolved," village Mayor Robert Lee said.

"We had a very informative meeting and I think we accomplished an awful lot.

We are working with the EPA to do everything we can do, so the EPA can approve it. We are making progress."

He declined to say anything further, but added that he is putting together a summary of the meeting discussion and some of the conclusions.

Board President Rex Reigert said the approval is in

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Hydrant flushing in Willoughby Hills

The Willoughby Hills Fire Department has started its spring hydrant flushing program, which will continue for the next several weeks.

Residents are asked to run the cold tap water should they notice sediment or discoloration, and all drivers should be alert for firefighters working in the roadway.

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process to continue the new middle school project.

"We are waiting for the paperwork (that is likely to come) on Thursday."

The school is slated to be in Madison Township, but Madison Village will provide sewer and water service.

The village must obtain permits to install a connection to its system.

The 105,488-square-foot building for the new Madison Middle School is estimated to cost \$18.9 million.

Randy Rothlisberger, director at Lake County Utilities Department, said it is unusual to change the service lines.

He said Madison High School does connect to the village's sewer system.

The middle school location, if there wasn't a proposal to tap into the village, would have cost the district about \$800,000, officials said.

A 3.33-mill bond that was passed last year by residents is funding the project. The bond generates \$21,857,274 — or 51 percent of the cost of a new middle school and elementary school — as well as a mandatory 0.5-mill, 37-year levy for the buildings' maintenance.